

Quick Guide to WIPP Recertification Public Outreach Activities



What EPA Will Do



What the Public Can Do

EPA Receives Recertification Application from DOE on 3/26/2004 and Begins Completeness Determination



What EPA Will Do

- A formal Federal Register notice will open public comment
- The Application will be made available on the EPA website and in public dockets
- Details of application posting will be presented on the EPA website and in the WIPP-NEWS email alert
- Request additional information from DOE as necessary and notify the public of these requests on the web site
- EPA staff will visit New Mexico and conduct hearings if desired by the public



What the Public Can Do

- Review or download the full Application on the EPA website or at the public dockets
- Sign up for the EPA WIPP-NEWS email alert; link to "subscribe" location on the web site
- Check website regularly for supplemental information being received regarding the application under "latest news"
- Call the WIPP Information Line at 1-800-331-WIPP for the latest news.
- Provide Comments on completeness issues as early as possible.

Summer/Fall 2004



What EPA Will Do

- Conduct technical evaluation of the Recertification Application and consider public comments
- Visit New Mexico to answer questions and discuss issues as requested by the public
- Once a formal determination of completeness is made, EPA will send letter to DOE and announce in the Federal Register, along with letter as well as announce on the website and in the WIPP-NEWS email alert



What the Public Can Do

- Regularly check website/WIPP-NEWS email alert/WIPP Information Line for meeting announcements, new information, and other news
- Attend public events when EPA staff visit New Mexico to ask questions and discuss recertification issues
- Call, email, or fax EPA staff with any questions or comments
- This is where public comment is most useful. Public comments during this period should focus on the adequacy of information provided by DOE on changes they proposed from the original certification. Comments should also identify any changes not identified by DOE that the public considers important.
- Public Comment is planned to remain open 30 to 60 days following EPA's determination of completeness

EPA Makes Final Decision on Recertification Within 6 Months of Completeness Determination

Spring 2005



What EPA Will Do

- EPA will publish a Federal Register Notice on the final decision as well as on the website, dockets, WIPP-NEWS email alert and WIPP Information Line
- EPA will explain its rationale for the final decision, and describe consideration of public comments received.



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EPA Conducts Continuing Activities to Inspect and Oversee WIPP Activities

2005-2010



What EPA Will Do

- Conduct regular inspections of the WIPP site, as well as the waste generator sites
- Evaluate any changes to the activities and conditions at WIPP
- Keep the public informed about WIPP activities through our website, emails and meetings



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- Regularly check website/WIPP-NEWS email alert/WIPP Information Line for meeting announcements, new information, and other news
- Call, email, or fax EPA staff with any questions or comments
- Public comment periods on proposed waste generator site approval decisions will be announced on the web, WIPP-NEWS email alert, and WIPP Information Line.



IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Web site is found at www.epa.gov/radiation/wipp/

Join the WIPP-News email alert at the web site

Email us at radiation.questions@epa.gov

WIPP hotline is 1-800-331-WIPP

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